

# DESCRIPTIONS OF SIPHONAPTERA.

By DR. KARL JORDAN, F.R.S.

(With 7 text-figures.)

## 1. *Echidnophage perilis* Jord. 1925 (text-fig. 13).

**D**ESCRIBED from West Australian ♀♀, no ♂♂ being available at that time. Dr. L. Glanert has lately sent a number of specimens among which are some ♂♂. In the original diagnosis (Nov. Zool. xxxii. p. 97 (1925)) I said that

segment V of the hindtarsus was at least as long as segments I to IV together; it should read foretarsus instead of hindtarsus. In the ♂ this segment of all tarsi is as long as in the ♀, with equally large plantar bristles, and there are, as in the ♀, two subapical ventral bristles on this segment. The upper process  $P^1$  of the genitalia (text-fig. 13) is rather stout and straight, being less than four times as long as broad; process  $P^2$  is sharply excised ventrally at the apex, the excision being rounded and the apical angle of  $P^2$  somewhat acute, the third process F, corresponding to the movable process (= meral pleura) of the majority of fleas, is characterised by being as long as  $P^1$  (measured on the ventral side) and by being apically somewhat widened and curved towards  $P^2$ .

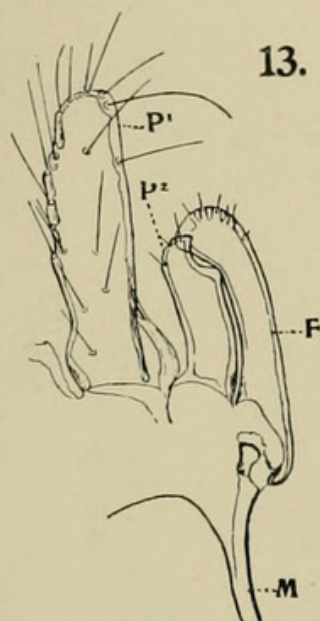
The specimens were obtained at

Perth, W. Australia, on *Peragale lagotis*.

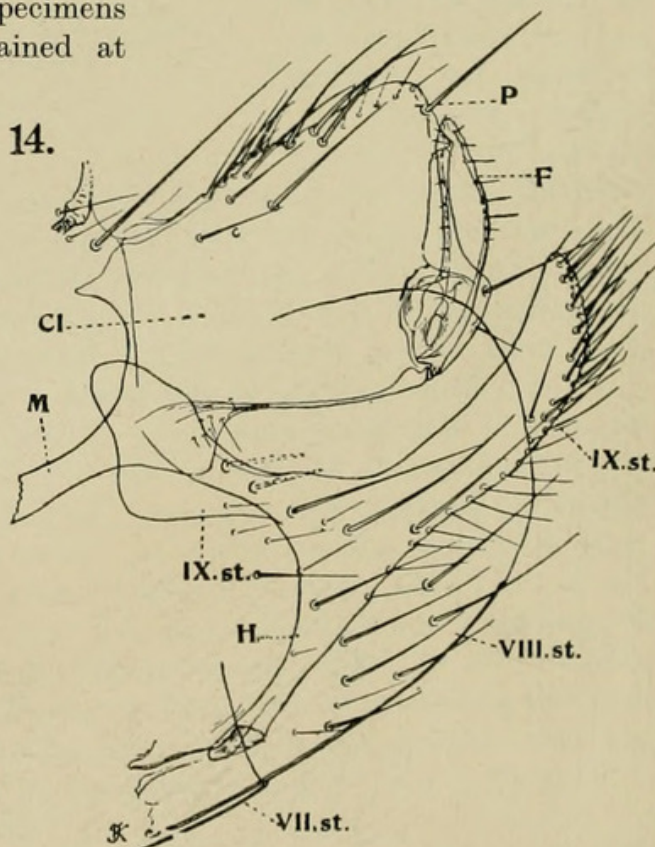
## 2. *Rhopalopsyllus tripus* sp. nov. (text-figs. 14, 15).

♂♀. In chaetotaxy agreeing with *Rh. acodontis* J. & R. 1923, *Rh. byturus* J. & R. 1923 and *Rh. dunni* J. & R. 1922 (see *Ectoparasites*, I. pp. 336-338 (1923)).

♂. On VIII. t. below stigma one long bristle and a short one. VIII. st. strongly rounded, ventrally divided to near the posterior bristles, but not quite so deeply as in *Rh. byturus*, with about 20 bristles on each side, inclusive of the small ones. Clasper and exopodite F as in



13.



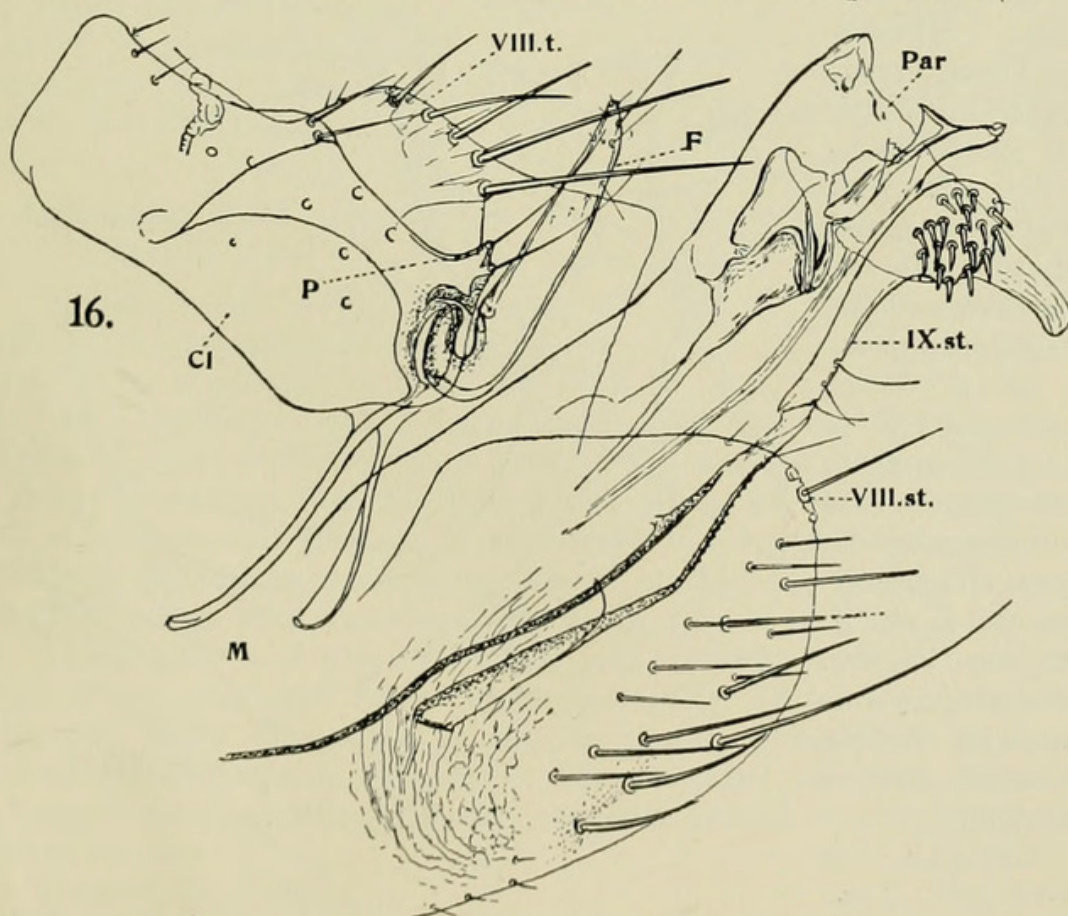
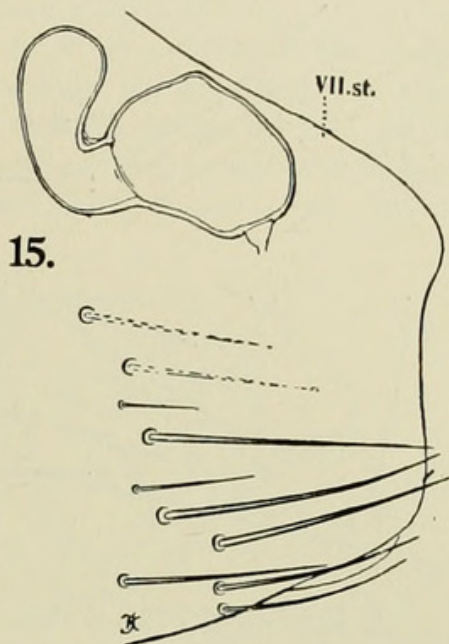
14.



*Rh. byturus*, but IX. st. different: ventral arm broader, ventrally beyond middle strongly convex, the frontad projection (the heel, H) longer and narrower than in any other known species, the distance from the tip of H to the nearest point of the dorsal curve of the ventral arm only a little over one-fifth shorter than the distance from the apex of the ventral arm to the nearest point of the posterior bay above the heel; bristles near apex of ventral arm much less prolonged than in *Rh. byturus* and *Rh. acodontis* (very long in *Rh. dunni*).

♀. The specimen of this sex which was obtained together with the ♂♂ agrees in the outline of VII. st. with *Rh. acodontis*. As we do not yet know any reliable distinctions between the ♀♀ of *Rh. byturus*, *Rh. acodontis*, *Rh. axius*, and some others (see *Ectoparasites*, I. p. 351, 1923), we may regard the ♀ here figured (text-fig. 15) as being the true ♀ of *Rh. tripus*.

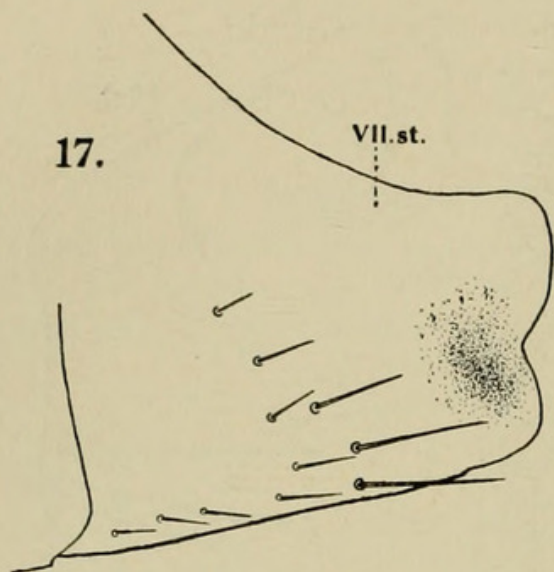
Argentina: Rosario de Lerma, on *Cavia leucoblephara*, 10. x. 1928 (Dr. L. Uriarte), 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀.—The shape of IX. st., with two vertical arms (one each side) and three ventral processes (the heel



and the two ventral arms) recalls the chair of the Pythia of Delphi; hence the specific name *tripus*, a Latin noun denoting that chair.



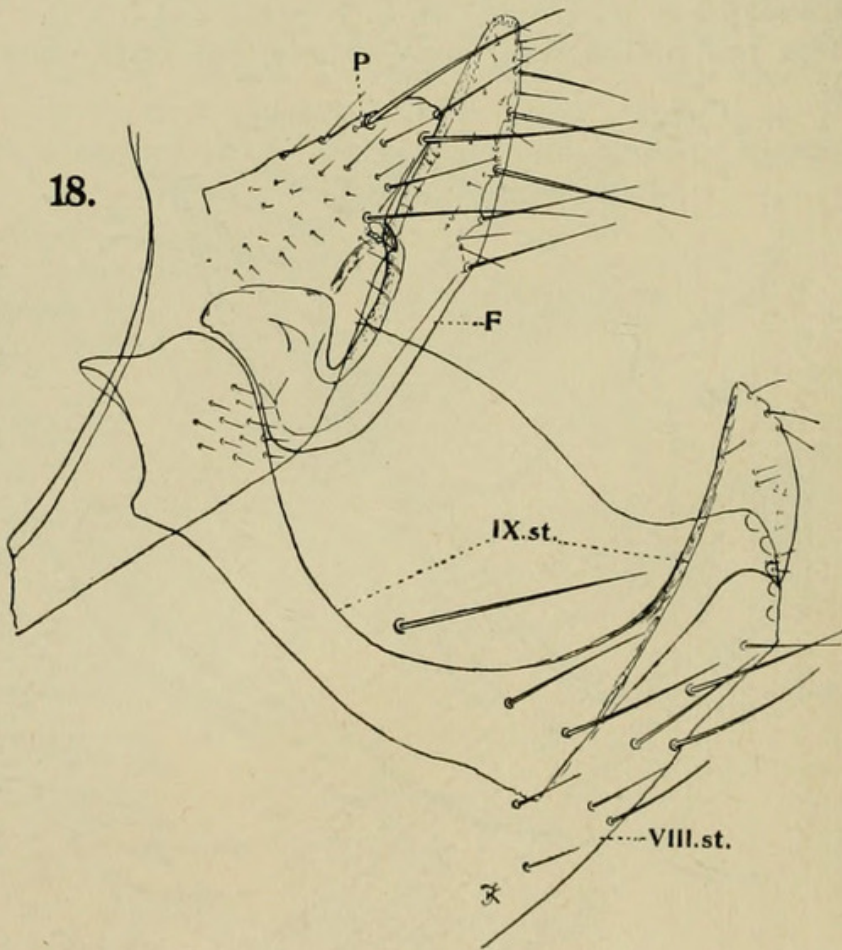
CORRECTION.—In the key given on pp. 350–351 of *Ectoparasites* some misprints occur which have not yet been corrected ; on p. 350 at end of line 3 from bottom read l instead of m ; on p. 351, at end of line 6 from top read o instead of p. The *Rh. bohlsi* of that paper is *Rh. rimatus* Jord. 1932, and the *Rh. bernhardi* is *Rh. bohlsi* Wagner 1901 ; see NOV. ZOOL. xxxviii. p. 292, no. 6 (1932).



3. *Xiphiopsylla lippa* sp. nov.  
(text-figs. 16, 17).

♂♀. Near *X. hippia* J. & R. 1913 ; the surface structure much less prominent, the abdominal tergites less strongly chitinised dorsally and ventrally, especially in ♀, the short bristles of the tergites thinner.

♂. Bristles of VIII. t. thinner, the two lower distal ones longer ; the ventral apical angle of VIII. t. about 90°, rounded off or sharp, but not produced backwards. Process P of clasper much more distinctly projecting. Movable finger F less curved. Apex of IX. st. with fewer spiniforms.—  
♀. VII. st. with lateral sinus, proximally to which the chitin thickened, the incrassation appearing as a darker lateral patch ; in *X. hippia* and *X. apriona* J. & R. 1913 the incrassation is ventral (♀ of *X. hyparetes* J. & R. 1913 not known). The receptaculum seminis of all three specimens lost in mounting.



Length : ♂ 2.1–2.5 mm., ♀ (extended) 2.8–2.9 mm. ; hindfemur ♂♀ 0.35–0.40 mm. Kenya Colony : Nakuru, on *Lophuromys aquilus*, x. 1928 (from Medical Research Laboratory, Nairobi) ; 3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀.



4. *Atyphoceras felix* sp. nov. (text-fig. 18).

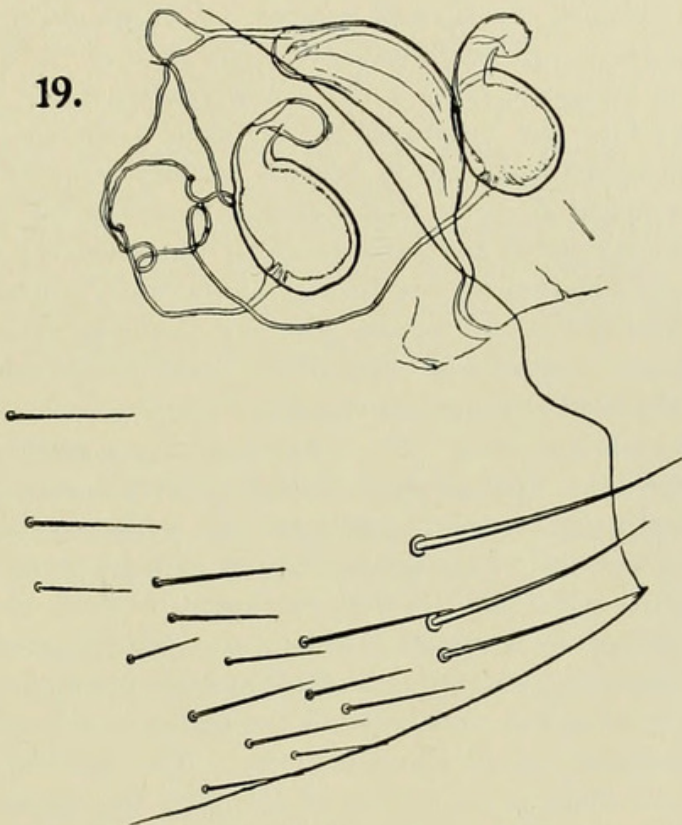
♂. Near *A. multidentatus* Fox 1909; as in that species the angle of frons near oral angle, the apical area of metatergite short, and the proboscis with more than 5 segments (7 in the new species); but differs in the tail-end.

VIII. st. much less deeply sinuate than in *A. multidentatus*, the margin hardly at all projecting above the sinus, the lobe below the sinus with 5 marginal bristles, the sternite bearing on one side 18 bristles altogether and on the other 19. Process P of clasper much longer than in *A. multidentatus*, with about 10 bristles, 4 of them long or longish, the others shorter; its anterior margin with a strongly projecting nose in middle. Movable sclerite F longer and narrower than in *A. multidentatus*, the ventral end less rounded and the angle of the anterior margin at three-eighths, instead of at two-eighths. Apex of vertical arm of IX. st. broader than in *A. multidentatus*, and the triangular apical dilated portion of the ventral arm longer.

Length: ♂ 2.3 mm.

California: Cuddy valley, Ventura Co., 5,000 ft., on *Peromyscus truei*, 20.v.1922 (A. B. Howell), 1 ♂.

19.

5. *Atyphoceras artius* sp. nov. (text-fig. 19).

♀. Close to *A. multidentatus*, but the bursa copulatrix of the same long shape as in *A. echis* J. & R. 1915.

One labial palpus with 7 segments, the other with 8. Hindfemur with 5 subventral bristles posteriorly on outside, and hindtibia with more than 20 lateral bristles, apart from the ventral and subventral ones. Ventral lobe of VII. st. truncate-emarginate as in *A. multidentatus*, but there are more bristles on this sternite, on the two sides together 35, of which the 6 posterior ones long. On VIII. t. (each side) 6 bristles above stigma, 7 below it, of which 1 very long, on widened area 19, of which 5 are long, and on inside 8. Stylet nearly three times as long as broad. Bursa copulatrix (text-fig. 19) somewhat shaped like a pea-pod, about three times as long as broad; spermatheca nearly as in *A. multidentatus*, smaller than in *A. echis*, its head somewhat pear-shaped, i.e. longer than broad and distinctly narrowed towards tail, which is smaller than in *A. echis*.

Length: ♀ 2.7 mm.

British Columbia: Kelowna, on *Peromyscus*, 4. x. 1908 (A. Tate), 1 ♀.



1933. "Descriptions of Siphonaptera." *Novitates zoologicae : a journal of zoology in connection with the Tring Museum* 39, 66–69.

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